GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:274
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2006
POWER THEFT
Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the increasing incidents of pilferage of power by domestic/industrial consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether efforts are being made by the Government to check this pilferage; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 274 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 11.08.2006 REGARDING POWER THEFT.

(a) to (d) : Government is aware of incidence of theft and pilferages in the electricity distribution. However, since it is not possible to exactly assess the amount of theft in the system, the concept of Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses was introduced by the Ministry in 2001-02 to capture total losses, not only technical but also commercial including those on account of theft and pilferage, poor metering and billing and non-realization of dues.

AT&C loss for 2001-02 of the state power distribution utilities at national level was 38.18%, which came down to 33.82% during 2004-05.

Government has already started taking measures to reduce the AT&C losses including pilferage/theft. These are:

(a) Technical Measures

- Installation of Efficient meters;

- Up gradation and strengthening of the weak distribution system;

- Increase in HT:LT Ratio;

- Relocation of distribution sub-stations and /or provision of additional distribution sub-stations;

- Installation of lower capacity distribution transformers to serve a smaller number/cluster of consumers and substitution of distribution transformers with those having lower non-load losses;

- Installations of shunt capacitors;

- Adoption of High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS);

- Regular maintenance of distribution network;

- GIS mapping of sub-transmission and distribution network including compilation of data; and

- IT intervention.

(b) Commercial Measures

- Improvement in metering and billing;

- Improvement in revenue collection; and

- Energy accounting and auditing.

(c) Management Measures

- Adoption of energy accounting and auditing;

- Proper network planning for future expansion;

- Preparation of long-term plans on regular basis for phased strengthening and improvement of the distribution systems along with associated transmission system; and

- Training of employees.

(d) Policy Measures

- Setting up of vigilance and legal measures in accordance with Electricity Act 2003, setting up of special courts, police stations, etc.; and

- Implementation of the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for up-gradation and strengthening of sub- transmission and distribution system and providing incentive for reducing cash losses by SEBs/Utilities.

Under APDRP, 583 projects have been sanctioned with total cost of Rs.19180.46 Crore, against which Rs.6306.86 Crore have been released by the Government.

11kV feeder metering has been completed to the extent of 96 percent while consumer metering has been completed to the extent of 93 percent.